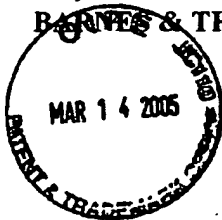


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No. 23643
Group: 1743
Confirmation No.: 3322
Application No.: 09/516,758
Invention: HOSPITAL METER SYSTEM
Inventor: James R. Kurtock, et al.
Filed: March 1, 2000
Attorney
Docket: 5727-63370
Examiner: Lyle A. Alexander

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on March 9, 2005

Kim Tyree
(Signature)

Kim Tyree

(Printed Name)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the December 10, 2004 official action, please amend the above-identified application as indicated beginning on the following page:

03/24/2005 CQUEEN 00000006 100435 09516758

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drawer accessible from two opposite sides of the accessory box, the drawer including a stop for reducing the likelihood of accidental disengagement of the drawer from the accessory box when the accessory box is withdrawn from either of said two opposite sides. Finally, none of the cited references discloses, for example, claim 49's specifically recited accessory box including a drawer accessible from two opposite sides of the accessory box, the drawer including latches to reduce the likelihood of inadvertent opening of the drawer. For at least these reasons, claims 37-49 are also entitled to favorable consideration, culminating in allowance.

Accordingly, all of claims 26-49, as presented herein, are submitted to be in condition for further favorable consideration, culminating in allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Should any additional fees be required to constitute this a timely response to the December 10, 2004 official action, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to Applicants' undersigned counsel's file 5727-63370. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



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INDS02 RDC 712204